THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPTT. OF EDUCATION AND DEPTT. OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) and (b) According to the information furnished by the University Grants Commission, universities are free to approach any Ministry/Government Department or any agency for funding the setting up of research centres. In fact, the UGC has advised the universities/institutions to mobilise additional resources for supporting their academic programmes including research and development.

(c) Such information is not maintained by the UGC.

Encouraging Rural and Traditional Indian Sports

2912. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a clear policy to encourage rural sports and traditional Indian sports;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether rural Olympics on a National scale will be organised; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS) (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government is implementing the following schemes to encourage rural sports and traditional Indian sports:—

(i) *Rural Sports Programme*:—Financial Assistance is given for holding rural sports tournament from district to national level. Rural Sports Club/Centres are also given financial assistance for purchase of sports equipment. The scheme also provides for organising North Eastern sports Festival every year.

(ii) *Scheme of grants to Rural schools*:—A grant upto Rs. 1.00 lakh is given to rural Secondary/Senior Secondary schools for development of playfield and purchase of non-consumable sports equipment.

(iii) *Scheme for promotion of indigenous sports and Matrial Arts*:—Under this scheme Sports Authority of India provides financial assistance to state Associations for printing of rule books of traditional games as well as for holding competitions to popularise these games.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Schools affiliated with ISCE

2913. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY. Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of schools which were affiliated to Council for Indian School Certificate Examinations during the last three years year-wise and Statewise;

(b) what are the rules for such affiliation;

(c) whether it is a fact that many schools were affiliated without obtaining 'No Objection Certificate' from the respective State Government;

(d) whether any State Government in the past wrote to the Council/Government on the matter; and

(e) if so, the details thereof in each case and also the action taken thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPTT. OF EDUCATION AND DEPTT. OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) The year and State-wise list of the number of